



ai'i

AAA.com

March 11, 2009

The Honorable Gary H. Okino  
City Council  
530 S. King St. Room 202  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

**Re: Honolulu Bill 4 (2009)**  
**Position: Letter of Support**

RECEIVED

MAR 13 9 50 AM '09

CITY CLERK  
HONOLULU, HAWAII

Dear Councilman Gary H. Okino:

AAA Hawai'i supports Honolulu Bill 4 (2009) – which prohibits the use of electronic devices, including hand-held cell phones while driving, except for emergency purposes.

AAA Hawai'i believes modern technology can provide a means for families, friends and business associates to stay in touch while traveling. The technology must, however, be used responsibly, and in a way that does not pose unacceptable dangers to those on the roadway.

Research shows that hand-held electronic devices (such as laptop computers, video games, cellular telephones, and text-messaging devices) can be highly distracting to those driving a motor vehicle and pose significant dangers to others on the roadway. Such devices can divert driver attention away from the driving task, impair the ability to control a vehicle, and delay recognition of potential safety threats.

Recent AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety research demonstrates that use of hand-held electronic devices (such as video games, computers, music players) that encourage drivers to take their eyes off the road for two seconds or longer doubles the risk of their being involved in a crash.

Providing service to more than 10 million members

1130 N. Nimitz Highway, Suite A170, Honolulu, HI 96817

MISC. COM. 609



We're always with you.®



Other AAA and Insurance Institute for Highway Safety research indicates that legislative bans on electronic devices, in particular, hand-held cell phones, can be very effective in reducing driver use of these devices. In California, AAA data show that the level of hand-held cell phone use in 2008 dropped nearly two-thirds over the first three months of the state's new hands-free cell phone law.

AAA Hawai'i believes Bill 4(2009) is a step in the right direction to minimize distracting activity while driving and improve safety on our roadways. As such, AAA Hawaii is pleased to support Bill 4 (2009).

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard E. Velazquez  
Regional Manager, AAA Hawai'i

Providing service to more than 10 million members

1130 N. Nimitz Highway, Suite A170, Honolulu, HI 96817



We're always with you.®